

## IN THE CLAIMS

1. – 7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) A combustor for a gas turbine engine, said combustor ~~comprising;~~ comprising a spectacle ~~plate;~~ plate, and a plurality of swirlers attached to said spectacle plate; ~~and, wherein to assemble said combustor:~~

an assembly fixture is coupled to at least one of said ~~swirler~~ swirlers, wherein each respective assembly fixture includes a plurality of arms that are sized to receive each said respective swirler and an attachment portion that is configured to couple to said spectacle plate;

each said respective assembly fixture is removably coupled to said spectacle plate such that to facilitate maintaining an alignment of each said respective swirler is aligned with respect to said spectacle plate; and

each respective assembly fixture is then uncoupled from each said spectacle plate after each said swirler is attached to each said spectacle plate.

9. (currently amended) A combustor in accordance with Claim 8 further comprising a plurality of deflector plates comprising an opening extending therethrough, wherein to assemble said combustor, said plurality of deflector plates are each attached to said spectacle plate such that wherein each said deflector plate opening is substantially concentrically aligned with each respective said swirler.

10. (original) A combustor in accordance with Claim 9 wherein each said swirler is welded to said spectacle plate prior to uncoupling each respective assembly fixture.

11. (currently amended) A combustor in accordance with Claim 9 wherein to assemble-said combustor further comprises plurality of deflector plates further comprise:

a first of said deflector ~~plate~~ plates is positioned against said spectacle plate;

a second of said deflector ~~plate~~ plates is positioned against said spectacle plate and circumferentially adjacent said first deflector plate; and

an alignment fixture is removably coupled between said first and second deflector plates to maintain a position of said first and second deflector plates with respect to said spectacle plate.

12. (currently amended) A combustor in accordance with Claim 11 wherein each said deflector plate is brazed to said spectacle plate, said and wherein each respective alignment fixture is removed after said first and second deflector plates are secured ~~brazed~~ to said spectacle plate during assembly of said combustor.

13. – 19. (canceled)